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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/768,466	01/25/2001	Toshiyuki Takao	FF-0131US	3951

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EXAMINER

ZHOU, TING

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 12/31/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/768,466

Applicant(s)

TAKAO ET AL.

Examiner

Ting Zhou

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed on November 14, 2003 had been received and entered. Claims 1-26 as amended are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipate by Cannon et al. U.S. Patent 5,748,484.

Referring to claims 1, 8 and 15, Cannon et al. teach a system, method and recording medium (card display/order computer system) storing a program including instructions for performing a method comprising a paste-up information receiving unit for receiving paste-up information to paste on the operation screen (column 4, lines 55-58), a paste-up information setting unit (to personalize the card) for setting the position and size of the paste-up information to be pasted (column 12, lines 13-23) and an operation screen creating unit for creating a new operation screen according to the results of the setting unit (card display system and printing system that allows users to view the cards created) (column 5, lines 64-67 and continuing onto

column 6, lines 1-4) , wherein the operation screen is a control terminal which controls a remote terminal (printer) via a communication line (telecommunications link)(column 5, lines 23-29, 52-56 and 64-67).

Referring to claims 2, 9 and 16, Cannon et al. teach the paste-up information receiving unit including at least one of an image data reading unit for receiving image data and a text data receiving unit for receiving text data, as recited in column 4, lines 60-62.

Referring to claims 3, 10 and 17, Cannon et al. teach an external memory device in communication with the control terminal (card display/order system), wherein the paste-up receiving unit reads out paste-up information from a file recorded in the external memory device (image files stored in data storage unit such as CD-ROM), as recited in column 5, lines 23-29 and column 13, lines 55-67.

Referring to claims 4, 11 and 18, Cannon et al. teach the paste-up information setting unit undertaking an automatic positioning setting process (automatically placing a signature or picture of the card purchaser) for coinciding a barycenter of paste-up information with a predetermined point on the operation screen (positioning the signature or picture in a specified position relative to the rest of the card), as recited in column 12, lines 32-40. Furthermore, according to the specification of the application on page 11, lines 31-32 and continuing onto page 12, lines 1-11, the automatic positioning setting process automatically alters the size of the paste-up information in order to fit in the paste-up information region. Cannon et al. teach the resizing of the received images so it will fit within a defined area, as recited in column 8, lines 58-68.

Referring to claims 5, 12 and 19, Cannon et al. teach conducting the automatic positioning setting process (via automatically positioning the signature or picture of the card purchaser in a specified location relative to a personalized text area) when the paste-up information is moved to the amount of a predetermined ratio in a predetermined position on the operation screen (when the personalized text has been moved according to the size and positional preferences specified by the user), as recited in column 12, lines 32-40.

Referring to claims 6, 13 and 20, Cannon et al. teach the operation screen creating unit creating a plurality of the operation screens (a plurality of cards), having different designs based on a common setting value relating to a position, size and direction of the paste-up information (different designs for the cards but uses a common image such as a logo), as recited in column 7, lines 66-67 and continuing onto column 8, lines 1-7.

Referring to claims 7, 14 and 21, Cannon et al. teach the control terminal (system for ordering and printing social expressions) comprising a plurality of control terminals (database preparation system, card display/order facilities and card printing facilities), as recited in column 4, lines 52-58. The system, method and recording medium further comprises a paste-up information storing unit connected to the communication line, communicating with a plurality of control terminals (column 5, lines 23-29) for storing a setting value relating to the position, size and direction of the paste-up information and wherein the operation screen is updated in accordance with the setting values of the paste-up information stored in the storing unit (column 11, lines 62-67).

Referring to claim 22, Cannon et al. teach a display device operably connected to a control terminal connected to a communication line for displaying an operation screen (column

5, lines 33-38), a paste-up information section and a screen arrangement section (used to personalize the card) having an input side connected to the information section and an output side connected to the display device (the inputs are received from the users regarding the desired characteristics of the card designs and outputted on the display screen), wherein the screen arrangement section is being operated by a user to automatically coincide a barycenter of inputted paste-up information with a predetermined point, as recited in column 5, lines 57-67 and continuing onto column 6, lines 1-4.

Referring to claim 23, Cannon et al. teach the remote terminal comprising a printer, as recited in column 5, lines 33-38 and 52-56.

Referring to claim 24, Cannon et al. teach the operation screen (card display facility) located at the control terminal (the card display facility controls the appearance of the card and then sends the finished card to a remote printer terminal to be printed), as recited in column 5, lines 33-38.

Referring to claim 25, Cannon et al. teach a display device connected to the control terminal and displaying the operation screen, as shown in Figures 1 and 18 and recited in column 22, lines 61-67 and continuing onto column 23, lines 1-17.

Referring to claim 26, Cannon et al. teach the remote terminal (printing facility) comprising a plurality of remote terminals (for example, the data storage unit), as recited in column 5, lines 23-29 and 39-43.

3. The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider

these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach electronic books with similar mechanisms for note taking and retrieval.

Response to Amendment

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

5. In response to the applicant's arguments, Cannon et al. specifically teaches a paste-up information setting unit (to personalize the card) for setting the position and size of the paste-up information to be pasted, as recited in column 12, lines 13-23. Furthermore, Cannon et al. also teach the operation screen (computer device) being a control terminal that controls a remote terminal (printer) via a communication line (telecommunications link), as recited in column 5, lines 23-29, 52-56 and 64-67.

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

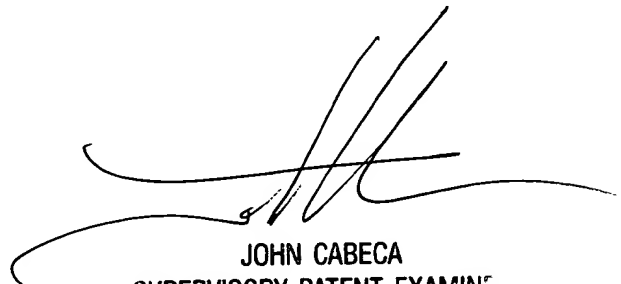
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ting Zhou whose telephone number is (703) 305-0328. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (703) 308-3116. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 305-9731 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

December 22, 2003



JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100